

What to See and Do Across the USA

(FEBRUARY-APRIL 2023)



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Overview

Travel across the USA promises an abundance of possibilities and opportunities. International travelers are invited to enjoy and discover a diversity of landscapes from rugged shorelines to urban jungles; an array of rich cultural experiences from musical trails to culinary adventures; exhilarating sports tournaments where hoops are shot and touchdowns scored; and connections to local communities where they will be taken off the beaten track and under the skin of the destination.

This quarterly calendar provides a snapshot of upcoming travel routes, openings, and things to see and do across the country.

In addition to nationwide events, the calendar is divided into five geographical regions:

- **Northeast** (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Washington, D.C., Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania)
- **Midwest** (Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas)
- **South** (Virginia, West Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma)
- West (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Hawaii)
- **U.S. Territories** (Puerto Rico, Guam, U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa)

Stories fall within the following categories:

- Planes, Trains, and Automobiles: Highlighting new transport links and routes that connect travelers to the U.S. gateways and beyond
- Hotel Openings / News
- Museums / Cultural Experiences
- Attractions: Debut of theme park rides and milestone moments at major amusement parks
- Festivals: Multi-day events celebrating food, music, and art
- Sports
- **Film and T.V.**: Television shows and movie premieres with a specific tie to a U.S. location, and films celebrating prominent milestones.

Stay up-to-date with the latest U.S. travel industry news with our <u>Brand USA Travel Talks podcast</u>. For further inspiration on destinations across the U.S., check out <u>GoUSATV</u> (available on Roku, etc).

Editor's Note: Images / b-roll are available to <u>download here</u>.

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Nationwide

• Museums / Cultural Experiences

- **Feb.:** <u>Black History Month</u> is an annual celebration of achievements by African Americans and a time for recognizing their central role in U.S. history.
- 20 Feb.: <u>Presidents' Day</u> is a federal holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.
- 16 April: First Day of National Parks Week (free entry to National Parks): Every April during the presidentially proclaimed National Park Week, the National Park Service and National Park Foundation invite visitors to explore amazing places, discover stories of history and culture, help out, and find your park. Entrance fees are waived on 16 April to kick off National Park Week and encourage everyone to enjoy their national parks.



Northeast

- Planes, Trains, and Automobiles
 - Air Travel:
 - **14 Feb.**: Air India Mumbai, India (Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, BOM) to New York, N.Y. (John F. Kennedy International Airport, JFK)
 - 23 March: Norse Airline Paris, France (Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport, CDG) to New York,
 N.Y. (John F. Kennedy International Airport, JFK)
 - 25 March: United Airlines São Paulo/Guarulhos, Brazil (Governor André Franco Montoro International Airport, GRU) to Washington, D.C. (Dulles International Airport, IAD)
 - **26 March:** Aer Lingus Dublin, Ireland (Dublin Airport, DUB) to Hartford, Conn. (Bradley International Airport, BDL)
 - **26 March**: United Airlines Amsterdam, Netherlands (Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, AMS) to Washington, D.C. (Dulles International Airport, IAD)
 - 26 March: United Airlines Brussels, Belgium (Brussels Airport, BRU) to Washington, D.C.
 (Dulles International Airport, IAD)
 - 10 April: Delta Airlines London, UK (Gatwick Airport, LGW) to New York, N.Y. (John F. Kennedy International Airport, JFK)
 - **30 April**: United Airlines Nice, France (Nice Côte d'Azur Airport, NCE) to Newark, N.J. (Newark Liberty International Airport, EWR)

Hotel Openings / News

- 2023, Boston, Mass.: Raffles Boston Back Bay Hotel & Residences will be the first mixed-use Raffles property in North America. With 147 guestrooms and 146 residences in a 35-story building, guests can expect signature services such as the Raffles Butler, a two-story sky lobby, five distinct food and beverage venues, a state-of-the-art Raffles Spa with a 20-meter indoor pool, a rooftop garden terrace and lounge, and expansive meeting and pre-function spaces. Residents will experience a unique collection of pied-a-terre suites, one- to three-bedroom homes and magnificent penthouses with full access to hotel services along with exclusive membership in the resident-only tier of the company's guest recognition and loyalty program.
- 2023, New York, N.Y.: Corinthia will be taking over The Surrey, just off of Central Park in New York City, and it will begin an extensive renovation; after, it will reopen in early 2023 as The Surrey, a Corinthia Hotel—operated and managed by Corinthia Hotels. The Surrey, a Corinthia Hotel will mark the Corinthia group's first property in the United States. Located at the corner of East 76th Street and Madison Avenue, The Surrey, a Corinthia Hotel will offer both guest rooms and residences. The redesign of the 97 guestrooms—including 33 suites and five signature suites—and 12 luxury residences.
- 2023, New York, N.Y.: Faena Hotel will be taking over a space in the XI mixed-use development in Manhattan's West Chelsea neighborhood, overlooking the Hudson River. The project is owned by Witkoff Group and Access Industries. Other Faena properties include the brand's Miami Beach location in Florida which director Baz Luhrmann helped design.

Museums / Cultural Experiences

Ongoing, New York, N.Y.: The Museum of the City of New York will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year. The museum has amassed a collection of over 750,000 objects including photographs, prints, costumes, paintings and more to celebrate, document and interpret the City's past, present and future.



- Now until 18 Feb., New York, N.Y.: Just Above Midtown: 1974 to the Present at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) shares artwork created by African-American artists and artists of color during Just Above Midtown (JAM)'s premiere years of 1974-1986. JAM was an art gallery and self-described laboratory led by Linda Goode Bryant, and was known as a place where black art flourished and debate was cultivated. The gallery offered early opportunities for artists now recognized as pivotal figures in late-20th-century art, including David Hammons, Butch Morris, Senga Nengudi, Lorraine O'Grady, and Howardena Pindell.
- 2 Feb., Punxsutawney, Penn.: A holiday that brings thousands together, <u>Groundhog Day</u> celebrates the nation's furriest forecaster. A bucket list must-do, the event is packed with live music, special performances, and a firework display all leading up to the Punxsutawney Phil's prognostication.
- 11 Feb. 26 Nov., Philadelphia, Penn.: James Forten, born a free man of African descent, was a changemaker in the city of Philadelphia in the 1770s becoming a successful businessman, philanthropist, and stalwart abolitionist. Black Founders: The Forten Family of Philadelphia, on display at the Museum of the American Revolution, introduces visitors to Forten and his descendants as they navigate and become leaders in the abolition movement in the lead-up to the Civil War and the women's suffrage movement. Objects, documents, and immersive environments will be used to tell the stories of the Forten family's roles in the Revolutionary War, business in Philadelphia, and abolition and voting rights from 1776 to 1876.
- 18 Feb., Philadelphia, Penn.: Created for the 100-year celebration of The Walt Disney Company, the world premiere exhibition <u>Disney100</u> at The Franklin Institute will immerse guests in the beloved stories that have been dazzling fans since 1923. Opening February 18, the Walt Disney Archives opens its vault of treasures, showcasing hundreds of extraordinary objects, including Disney's "Crown Jewels" more than 250 rarely-seen original artworks and artifacts, costumes and props, and other memorabilia.
- 17 March, New York, N.Y.: The oldest and largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the country, the annual NYC St. Patrick's Day Parade has been held since 1762—14 years before the Declaration of Independence was signed—and features some 150,000 participants marching in front of nearly two million spectators.
- O 19 March, Boston, Mass.: The South Boston St. Patrick's Day/Evacuation Day Parade has been a tradition in South Boston for more than 110 years, with the first procession taking place in 1902. It includes various marching bands, police and army contingents, costume spectacles, novelty vehicles, and a general "green" atmosphere due to participants and onlookers wearing green hats and accessories to reflect the association of the color with Irish culture.
- O 10 April, Washington, D.C.: The White House Easter Egg Roll is a popular event hosted by the White House. The South Lawn of the White House is filled with exciting activities for the whole family, including storytime, games, live entertainment, and the traditional Easter Egg Roll. The event is open to attendees via a lottery system run by the White House.
- Now until 23 April, New York, N.Y.: Coinciding with the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Maria, a category 5 storm that hit Puerto Rico on September 20, 2017, the Whitney Museum of American History is presenting no existe un mundo poshuracán: Puerto Rican Art in the Wake of Hurricane Maria, the first major US museum survey of Puerto Rican art in nearly 50 years. The exhibition will explore how artists have been impacted by the transformative years since the



- storm by showcasing more than 50 artworks made over the last five years from more than 15 artists from Puerto Rico and the diaspora.
- Now until 30 Sept., New York, N.Y.: Food in New York: Bigger Than the Plate at Museum of the City of New York highlights the City's raucous and diverse food culture all while examining the various challenges of NYC's food systems. From sustainability to equitable access to food, the exhibition explores the ways artists and designers are creating solutions to address the global and local challenges we face when it comes to the food system.
- Spring 2023, Harlem, N.Y.: Harlem's most famous venue, The Apollo, will unveil two new performance spaces marking the landmark's largest expansion in decades. Located on the third and fourth floor of the Victoria Theater Redevelopment Project and first announced in 2018, the expansion of the theater will provide a space to celebrate Harlem's cultural heritage while allowing the Apollo to expand its educational, artistic and community programmes. The Victoria Theater will also host local artists and Harlem-based arts organizations, giving them a chance to develop performance work in a professional-level theater space.
- 2023, Harlem, N.Y.: <u>Alkebulan</u>, which is the oldest name for Africa, is envisioned as a cultural and culinary movement that celebrates the untapped cuisine of the African continent. It is the project of Harlem-based Chef Alexander Small, the James Beard award-winning visionary of The Cecil and its sister restaurant Minton's. Alkebulan will open in uptown Harlem highlighting ten food stalls from around the continent, as well as featuring music and art.
- 2023, New York, N.Y.: The Ronald O. Perelman Performing Arts Center (PAC), opening in the World Trade Center, will constitute a unique venue for theater, dance, music, and chamber opera. It will offer artists new kinds of theatrical design possibilities and new opportunities to create innovative multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary work. The PAC will celebrate life and humanity, redefining Lower Manhattan as a cultural destination and serving as a living testament to the power of the arts to inspire and unite. A home for creativity, the PAC will produce and present all forms of performance.

Attractions

2023, Charlotte, N.C: In 2023, <u>Carowinds celebrates 50 years</u> as the Carolinas' premier entertainment destination. "50 Years of Carolina Fun" is a one-of-a-kind Charlotte event bringing together all elements of a landmark celebration. At the center of Carowinds' 50th anniversary celebration is the launch of Aeronautica Landing, a tribute to the Carolinas' spirit of invention, exploration, and aviation. Guests can immerse themselves in the history and future of flight while having a high-flying blast on new and reimagined rides.

Festivals

20 March - 16 April, Washington, D.C.: The National Cherry Blossom Festival commemorates the 1912 gift of 3,000 cherry trees from Mayor Yukio Ozaki of Tokyo to the city of Washington, DC, and celebrates the enduring friendship between the people of the United States and Japan. Today's festival now spans four weeks and welcomes more than 1.5 million people to enjoy diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Events are primarily free and open to the public.

Sports

23 April, New York, N.Y.: Taking place this spring, the annual NYCRuns Brooklyn Marathon & Half Marathon offers runners the chance to explore Brooklyn from North Williamsburg and along the waterfront, before finishing in Prospect Park.



States, Penn Relays hosts athletes from high schoolers to Olympic athletes from all over the world as they come to Philadelphia to compete in the relays.

o **26 April, Philadelphia, Penn.**: The oldest and largest track and field competition in the United



Midwest

• Planes, Trains, and Automobiles:

- Air Travel:
 - 26 March: Delta Air Lines Tokyo, Japan (Haneda International Airport, HND) to Minneapolis, Minn. (Minneapolis-St Paul International Airport, MSP)

Museums / Cultural Experiences

18 March, Chicago, Ill.: The <u>Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade</u> has been a Windy City tradition since 1843, with over two million spectators annually. Once the Chicago River is turned green, celebrations continue with a parade, complete with bagpipers, Irish dancers and Clydesdale horses, then typically evolves into massive, rollicking street parties in the areas surrounding Grant Park and Division Street.

Attractions

- Now until 12 Feb., Minneapolis, Minn.: The Art Shanty Project includes colorful structures that pepper Bde Unma/Lake Harriet like a cartoon village on ice. Created by local artists and inspired by traditional ice fishing villages, the imaginative Art Shanties have popped up on area lakes since 2004. Past iterations have included a star-shape Lite-Brite illuminated by the sun, and a butterfly shanty where visitors could ride bikes with attached monarch wings.
- Now until 20 Feb., Brighton, Minn. and Lake Geneva, Wisc.: <u>Ice Castles</u> is an award-winning frozen attraction located in five cities across North America. The experience is built using hundreds of thousands of icicles hand-placed by professional ice artists. The castles include breathtaking LED-lit sculptures, frozen thrones, ice-carved tunnels, slides, fountains and much more.
- Now until 26 Feb., Strongsville, Ohio: Experience the icy thrill of tobogganing at The Chalet in <u>Mill Stream Run Reservation</u> on two, twin 700-foot toboggan chutes. Riders shoot down the refrigerated hills on wooden toboggans, reaching speeds up to 50 mph.

Festivals

- Now until 25 Feb., Fargo, N.D.: <u>Frostival</u> is all about celebrating the "cool" of winter with outdoor events, concerts, and family-friendly activities across the North of Normal city, Fargo, and its sister cities West Fargo and Moorhead. Events include ice fishing tournaments, movies on the ice, parka yoga and an underwear run.
- 8-12 Feb., Munising, Mich.: Michigan Ice Fest, a celebration of ice climbing in the eastern Upper Peninsula, is bringing back a full roster of popular classes for its 2023 event - including night climbing. Michigan's Munising area is considered one of the best places in North America for the sport, thanks to the numerous waterfalls along Pictured Rocks' Lake Superior shoreline.
- 18 Feb., Clear Lake, Iowa: <u>Color the Wind</u> is the Midwest's largest and most colorful winter kite festival, featuring huge inflatable kites of all kinds flown by serious kite-flyers from across the United States.
- April 2023, Wichita, Kan.: For nearly 50 years, the Wichita Jazz Festival has been celebrating
 the history and legacy of jazz music while encouraging and developing the next generation of
 musicians. With concerts, educational opportunities and the annual festival, some of the
 biggest names in the genre have made their way to Wichita to pair professional players with
 those learning the style.



South

• Planes, Trains and Automobiles

- o Air Travel:
 - 21 Feb.: Azul Recife, Brazil (Guararapes–Gilberto Freyre International Airport, REC) to Orlando, Fla. (Orlando International Airport, MCO), and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (Fort Lauderdale Hollywood Airport, FLL)
 - 26 March: American Airlines Tokyo, Japan (Haneda International Airport, HND) to Dallas,
 Texas (Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, DFW)
 - **27 March**: Delta Airlines Stuttgart, Germany (Stuttgart Airport, STR) to Atlanta, Ga. (Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, ATL)
 - 29 March: Edelweiss Air Zurich, Switzerland (Zurich Airport, ZHR) to Tampa, Fla. (Tampa International Airport, TPA)

Hotel Openings / News

- Early 2023, Fredericksburg, Texas: The Albert Hotel, built as a celebration of Texas Hill Country and noted Fredericksburg architect Albert Keidel, will open this year on the original site of the Keidel family pharmacy and homestead. The hotel will have 110 guest rooms, including bunkrooms, suites, and a private house, each with tailored amenities and custom-designed furniture. The property has three restaurants, two bars, a private dining room, and will offer inroom dining. The grounds include an outdoor pool, a fitness center, and a 2,000-square-foot full-service spa.
- Early 2023, Riviera Beach, Fla.: Set to open early 2023, The Palm Beaches will welcome its newest luxury spa, Amrit Ocean Resort & Residences, unveiling more than 100,000-square-feet of wellness amenities rooted in the five pillars of wellness: mindfulness, nutrition, fitness, relaxation, and sleep. With refreshing and innovative approaches to wellness, the brand new resort will offer a personalized programme that combines Eastern wellbeing philosophies and western technology. The Center and Spa will bring a hammam, an oceanfront relaxation lounge, 29 treatment rooms, two couples suites with private ocean view terrace, along with specialized treatment rooms as part of its health-oriented offerings. Furthering its offerings, an "Aayush Hydrothermal Experience" the only indoor/outdoor hydrothermal experience in Florida will lead guests through the healing properties of water, while spa treatments on Amrit's private beachfront make for perfect relaxing experiences.
- Spring 2023, Louisville, Ky.: Louisville gets a new bastion of cool next spring when Hotel Genevieve, named for a regional type of limestone used in bourbon production, opens in the city's NuLu neighborhood. The hotel, which includes 122 rooms across six floors plus a Parisianinspired rooftop restaurant and bar, aims to go beyond Louisville's equine and bourbon history, showcasing the unique personalities and talents who have called Derby City home over the years.

Museums / Cultural Experiences

- o **2023, Texas:** In 2023, <u>Texas State Parks will celebrate its centennial anniversary</u> with a year-long series of events taking place in the more than 80 parks across the state.
- Early 2023, San Antonio, Texas: The Alamo is improving its visitor experience and expanding its
 exhibition facilities with the new <u>Exhibition Hall and Collections Building</u>. This building will



display the entire Phil Collins Collection, among other pieces from the Alamo Collection, in its 10,000 square feet of new exhibit space – five times more than the Alamo has today. This new building, part of "The Alamo Plan," provides state—of—the—art facilities for special exhibitions and storage to ensure the long—term care of the Alamo collection. The Exhibition Hall is not a replacement for the upcoming Alamo Visitor Center and Museum, which is on track for a later launch. The Phil Collins Collection will then be put on display in the museum and the Exhibition Hall will become home to additional traveling exhibits to further educate and engage visitors.

- Now until 21 Feb., New Orleans, La.: Mardi Gras in New Orleans is a one to three month stretch of the year in which the streets come alive with music, art, and costumed revelers. Beginning on Twelfth Night, January 6, the best season of the year is upon us: king cake, beadtossing, and parading begins and only increases as we make our way toward Mardi Gras Day. This year the season is a long one, with Mardi Gras Day on 1 March, 2022.
- February 2023, Nashville, Tenn.: <u>Dine Nashville: The Music City Way</u> is a month-long celebration that features collaborative chef experiences, a restaurant week (20-26 Feb.), and discount offerings from local food retail outlets across Music City. From curated chocolate and whiskey tastings to special food and drink pairings from local chefs, this event showcases the best of Nashville's food and drink scene.
- Spring 2023, Oklahoma City, Okla.: The <u>Professional Bull Riders' Hall of Fame</u> will be unveiled in Spring 2023 in the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum's American Rodeo Gallery, with an expansion planned soon after as part of a major reconstruction and reimagining of the Gallery. A fitting home for the living tribute to the PBR, the American Rodeo Gallery celebrates the history, people and events of the West's original sport. Exhibitions in the space explore the sport's evolution from turn of the century round-up competitions to high-stakes professional competition in the Museum's colorful and dramatic interpretive gallery.

Attractions

- Now until 31 March, Orlando, Fla.: Walt Disney World's 50th Anniversary Celebration includes an array of new rides and magical performances. From the new Guardians of the Galaxy: Cosmic Rewind and Ratatouille rides in Epcot to the Disney Enchantment fireworks performance at Magic Kingdom and the Disney KiteTails performance at Animal Kingdom, there is something for everyone to celebrate at Disney.
- Spring 2023, Sevierville, Tenn.: Have you ever imagined yourself working on a big job site with the access and knowledge to man construction equipment? <u>Dig'n Zone Theme Park</u>, a construction theme park that will allow adults and children to drive, ride and operate real construction equipment, is scheduled to open in Sevierville in spring 2023. Dig'n Zone Theme Park will feature more than 25 attractions that allow visitors to operate all different types of construction equipment.
- 2023, Kansas City, Mo.: In 2023, Worlds of Fun theme park celebrates 50 years of adventure where unforgettable memories are made. Guests will be able to relive some of their favorite Worlds of Fun moments through original, live shows and exciting entertainment such as "50 Nights of Fire" created just for the celebration. This year also includes the premiere of the reimagined Zambezi Zinger, a thrilling new roller coaster in the heart of the Serengeti that features both a modern design and a nostalgic connection to the original Zinger which thrilled guests for 25 seasons in the park.

Festivals



- 19-25 Feb., Tenn.: <u>Tennessee Songwriters Week 2023</u> showcases across the state spotlight songwriters with live performances and encourages visitors to experience the state's music stories, history, attractions and venues.
- O 10-19 March, Austin, Texas: Every spring, crowds descend on downtown Austin to experience the world-renowned SXSW® Music, Film and Interactive Conference and Festival. Consisting of three main components, Interactive, Music and Film, each track brings top creatives and global professionals together to collaborate during this exciting 10-day event.
- O 30 March 2 April, Knoxville, Tenn.: The Big Ears Festival, Knoxville's biggest, boldest and most dynamic festival celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, featuring the world's most celebrated performers and composers. Surprise collaborations and artistic collisions celebrate the never-ending adventure of creation and exploration. The festival features an array of world-class artists, including GRAMMY Award winners, Pulitzer Prize winners and MacArthur "Genius Grant" recipients in 100+ performances and an array of panels, workshops, and exhibitions all in Knoxville's extraordinary concert halls, listening rooms, clubs, churches and galleries.

Sports

- 3-4 Feb., Sunrise, Fla.: The 2023 Honda NHL All-Star Weekend returns to South Florida for the second time in franchise history. The weekend will include the Honda NHL All-Star Game on Saturday, Feb. 4 and NHL All-Star Skills on Friday, Feb. 3, as well as entertainment and more for fans to enjoy.
- 19 Feb., Daytona, Fla.: Experience the excitement of one of the most important and prestigious races on the NASCAR calendar at the 65th annual Daytona 500 in Daytona Beach, Florida.
 Racers will compete over 200 laps (500 miles) for the largest purse in NASCAR racing.
- 28 Feb. 19 March, Houston, Texas: <u>The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo</u> is the largest livestock exhibition and rodeo in the world, including one of the richest regular-season professional rodeo events. The event also features musical performances from Lauren Daigle, The Chainsmokers and Cody Jinks, along with additional acts to be announced.
- o 3-5 March, Chattanooga, Tenn.: The Erlanger Chattanooga Marathon Weekend has something for everyone, with a 26.2 mile marathon, 13.1 mile half-marathon, team relay, Chattanooga 5K and kids' fun run. During race weekend, runners will explore Chattanooga's scenic qualities that define the community as one of the best outdoor destinations. Runners will pass the Tennessee River & venture through our distinct Downtown as they experience an innovative course unique to Chattanooga.
- 22-26 March, Austin, Texas: With a rare, match-play format consisting of the top 64 players in the Official World Golf Rankings, the <u>WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play</u> field consists of the very best players from around the world and is one of the most elite and exciting tournaments on golf's calendar.
- 24-26 March, Knoxville, Tenn.: The 2023 Academy Sports + Outdoors Bass Master Classic presented by Huk returns to the Tennessee River! The prestigious championship bass tournament widely known as the "Super Bowl of Bass Fishing" will be held in downtown Knoxville and on the University of Tennessee Campus. The Bassmaster Classic pits 55 of the world's best bass anglers against one another for the title of Bassmaster Classic Champion. The Classic is a catch-and-release event, with bass being returned to the fishery under the supervision of the TWRA.



- 24-26 March, Austin, Texas: <u>Circuit of The Americas (COTA)</u> will welcome race fans this March when NASCAR returns to Austin for the second time, courtesy of Speedway Motorsports. Experience another unforgettable race weekend with the running of the NASCAR Cup Series, Xfinity Series and Camping World Truck Series at COTA.
- 31 March 2 April, Dallas, Texas: Dallas will play host to a celebration of women's basketball, with all three <u>NCAA women's basketball national championships</u> being decided during a 48-hour span at the American Airlines Center in downtown Dallas. In addition, the NCAA will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of Title IX during the 2022-23 academic year, with the culmination taking place in Dallas during the women's basketball championships.
- 1-3 April, Houston, Texas: Houston is proud to host its fourth NCAA® Men's Final Four® in 2023. This marquee event of men's college basketball will take place at NRG stadium with ancillary events such as the Final Four Fan Fest® presented by Capital One; March Madness Music Festival® presented by AT&T, Coca-Cola and Capital One and Reese's Final Four Friday® offering plenty of fun for visiting fans.
- 6-9 April, Augusta, Ga.: As one of four major championships in professional golf, <u>The Masters</u>
 <u>Tournament</u> is the first major tournament of the year. Established in 1934, the week-long
 tournament includes the celebratory awarding of the green jacket to the champion.
- 28-30 April, Oklahoma City, Okla.: The Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon is a community-driven event that began in 2001 as a fundraiser for the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum. The event has grown to host more than 25,000 runners and walkers from every state and several countries. It's been named as one of the "must-run marathons" by Runner's World magazine. It's also an official Boston qualifying race. Five events take place throughout race weekend: Marathon, Half Marathon, 5K, 5-Person Relay and Kids Marathon. Participants in the Kids Marathon run 25 miles leading up to the weekend, then finish out the last 1.2 miles on race day.

Film and T.V.

 23 Feb.: Season 3 premiere of Netflix's <u>Outer Banks</u>, filmed in Charleston and Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.



West

- Planes, Trains, and Automobiles
 - Air Travel:
 - 25 March: Delta Airlines London, UK (Heathrow Airport, LHR) to Los Angeles, Calif. (Los Angeles International Airport, LAX)
 - 26 March: British Airways London, UK (Gatwick Airport, LGW) to Las Vegas, Nev. (Harry Reid International Airport, LAS)
 - 26 March: United Airlines Tokyo, Japan (Narita International Airport, NRT) to Denver,
 Colo. (Denver International Airport, DEN)
 - 26 March: American Airlines Tokyo, Japan (Haneda International Airport, HND) to Los Angeles, Calif. (Los Angeles International Airport, LAX)
 - 26 March: All Nippon Airways Tokyo, Japan (Haneda International Airport, HND) to Seattle, Wash. (Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, SEA)
 - 26 March: Delta Air Lines Tokyo, Japan (Haneda International Airport, HND) to Portland,
 Ore. (Portland International Airport, PDX)
 - **26 March:** United Airlines Tokyo, Japan (Narita International Airport, NRT) to Honolulu, Hawaii (Honolulu International Airport, NHL)
 - 26 March: KLM/Delta Airlines Amsterdam, Netherlands (Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, AMS) to Salt Lake City, Utah (Salt Lake City International Airport, SLC)
 - **26 March:** United Airlines Amsterdam, Netherlands (Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, AMS) to San Francisco, Calif. (San Francisco International Airport, SFO)

Hotel Openings / News

- Early 2023, Orange, Calif.: The Richland is a new boutique hotel and event space slated to open in early 2023 in the city of Orange. Situated in the heart of the historic Orange Plaza, The Richland is being reimagined as an intimate "Stay & Gather" retreat for travelers, local revelers, and anyone celebrating life's special moments. The property will feature just 12 guest rooms and suites, an intimate living room lounge and bar, as well as a beautiful ballroom and indoor/outdoor gathering spaces for parties of up to 200 guests. The interior spaces were stripped to provide a clean backdrop to best showcase the original architecture, while still paying homage to the small-town charm of its environs. Arriving guests will find a bright and airy main entry with a mature olive tree and water fountain centerpiece that leads through to jasmine vine-covered pergolas.
- 15 Feb., Kauai, Hawaii: Considered one of the most beautiful spots on Earth, 1 Hotel Hanalei Bay will bring a world-class wellness resort and flagship sustainable sanctuary to Kauai's North Shore. 1 Hotel Hanalei Bay will feature 252 rooms, including 51 suites with native greenery, reclaimed materials, organic cotton linens, and views of the stunning Hanalei Bay. Seven restaurants and bars will offer fresh, local, and sustainably sourced farm-to-table cuisine using ingredients from the hotel's organic on-site garden and neighboring farms.
- 2023, Kailua Kona, Hawaii: Located on the Kona Coast of the Big Island of Hawai'i, the iconic Kona Village Resort will once again open its doors and welcome back 'ohana (family) to the historic and culturally rich destination in 2023. Less than 10 miles north of the Kona International Airport, Kona Village, A Rosewood Resort will debut 150 unique, standalone guest hales with locally-inspired décor and a privileged sense of seclusion. An array of distinct dining venues, including the original resort's beloved Shipwreck Bar and Talk Story Bar, will offer



elevated yet relaxed experiences. The resort will also offer an array of event spaces and outdoor activities, making it an exceptional destination for meetings, events and celebrations.

Museums / Cultural Experiences

- Ongoing, Denver, Colo.: The <u>First Friday Art Walks</u> are the signature event of Denver's Art
 District on Santa Fe. All year round, rain or shine, the District comes alive on the first Friday of
 each month as thousands descend upon Santa Fe Drive for the First Friday Art Walks from 5:309:30 p.m. View art from hundreds of artists in galleries, studios, co-ops and all sorts of other
 locations.
- Ongoing, Forestville, Calif.: Located within The Farmhouse Inn, Farmstand is a Michelin-rated restaurant with a newly redesigned kitchen and the installation of Chef de Cuisine Shawn Jackson Clark overseeing a revamped fine dining program. Featuring primarily outdoor dining, with bubbly Neapolitan pizzas, wood-fired cooking and shareable plates, the concept was inspired by a previous foray into all-day dining at the Forestville Inn. The new concept takes advantage of the property's woodsy charm. The Farmstand menu is entirely a la carte, with fresh vegetable dishes with many from co-owner Joe Bartolomei's garden. Farmhouse and Farmstand dining experiences are both open to the public.
- Now until 12 Feb., San Francisco, Calif.: The de Young museum is the exclusive West Coast venue for the international touring exhibition Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs. The show is the first new exhibition dedicated to Egyptian ruler Ramses II in 30 years and is the first to be presented in San Francisco. Once the exhibition completes its international tour, the objects many newly discovered and having never left Egypt before will return to Egyptian museums and will not likely travel again for decades. The exhibition features exquisite sculpture, precious treasures, and state-of-the-art multimedia production that will demonstrate the opulence and power of ancient Egyptian civilization.
- Now until 19 Feb., Los Angeles, Calif.: The Space Between: The Modern in Korean Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art covers the years 1897 to 1965, loosely organized chronologically, stylistically, and conceptually. The second of three major Korean art exhibitions of Hyundai Motor's Korean Art Scholarship initiative, The Space Between spans the arc of European-influenced art via Japan in the Korean Empire (1897–1910) and colonial period (1910–45), explores American influences absorbed throughout the Korean War (1950–53), and provides a glimpse into the beginning of the contemporary. Featuring approximately 130 works that reflect the influx of foreign-introduced new media, the exhibition includes oils, ink, photography, and sculpture.
- Now until 30 April, San Francisco, Calif.: San Francisco Ballet celebrates its 90th season with new Artistic Director Tamara Rojo at the helm and the Next @90 Festival. Rojo is the first woman to lead SF Ballet, the oldest professional ballet company in the U.S. Next@90 will feature world premieres by nine outstanding choreographers from around the world, including Nicolas Blanc (Joffrey Ballet), Bridget Breiner (Badisches Staatsballett Karlsruhe), Robert Garland (Dance Theatre of Harlem), Benjamin Millepied (L.A. Dance Project), Yuka Oishi, Yuri Possokhov (SF Ballet), Jamar Roberts (Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater), Danielle Rowe, and Claudia Schreier (Atlanta Ballet). It will also feature beloved story ballets such as Christopher Wheeldon's Cinderella and outgoing SF Ballet Artistic Director Helgi Tomasson's Giselle and Romeo & Juliet, complemented by a mixed repertory program featuring elegant and dynamic



- works from Tomasson, William Forsythe, and the live stage premiere of Myles Thatcher's COLORFORMS.
- Now until 14 May, Portland, Ore.: Dakota Modern: The Art of Oscar Howe at the Portland Art Museum introduces new generations to one of the 20th century's most innovative Native American painters. Howe (1915–1983) committed his artistic career to the preservation, relevance, and ongoing expression of his Yanktonai Dakota culture. He proved that art could be simultaneously modern and embedded in customary Očhéthi Šakówin (Sioux) culture and aesthetics—to him there was no contradiction. Howe challenged the art establishment's preconceptions and definitions of Native American painting. In doing so, he catalyzed a movement among Native artists to express their individuality rather than conforming to an established style.

Attractions

- 2023, Hollywood, Calif.: First erected in 1923, the iconic Hollywood Sign is celebrating its
 centennial anniversary this year. Entering 2023 with a fresh coat of paint, the Sign will be
 celebrated throughout the year with festivities, special events and opportunities to
 commemorate the sign in person and virtually.
- 2023, Hollywood, Calif.: A global icon of Hollywood moviemaking, Warner Bros. Studios
 <u>celebrates its 100th Anniversary</u> on April 4 with a year of exciting centennial celebrations. From
 fan favorites like When Harry Met Sally and Friends to masterpieces of cinema like Casablanca
 and Gone With the Wind, Warner Bros. will share the magic of film with audiences in special
 ways throughout the year.
- Spring 2023, Westchester, Calif.: Set to open this spring at HHLA, the Muhammad Ali Experience integrates storytelling, tactile play and the latest multimedia technology with custom-designed experiential zones and never-before-seen memorabilia, including a virtual face-off with the champion showing firsthand the skill and speed that defined him. Step into the ring and experience the legacy of Muhammad Ali for an extraordinarily immersive exhibition inspired by his journey from celebrated athlete to humanitarian. From his first steps at Louisville gym to the blinding lights of Madison Square Garden, guests are invited to experience the key moments that shaped Ali into one of the most inspiring icons of the 20th century.
- 2023, Los Angeles, Calif.: <u>Destination Crenshaw</u> will be the largest public/private Black art program in the nation, stamping Crenshaw Boulevard with a transformative infrastructure project boosting the community through economic development, job creation and environmental healing while elevating Black art and culture. Spanning 1.3 miles of Crenshaw Boulevard, Destination Crenshaw will transform the area into a thriving corridor including beautiful community spaces, parks, newly planted trees and over 100 commissioned works of art later this year.

Festivals

3-5 March, Los Angeles, Calif.: The world's largest hip hop festival, Rolling Loud 2023 will take place at the Hollywood Park Grounds adjacent to SoFi Stadium from March 3-5, 2023. With a track record welcoming the biggest stars in hip hop such as A\$AP Rocky, Migos, J. Cole, Kid Cudi, Cardi B, Nicki Minaj and more, this year's event is sure to put on a can't-miss show for hip hop fans visiting Los Angeles.



- 19 March, Buelton, Calif.: Located just north of Santa Barbara, Buellton is home to the annual Buelton Wine & Chili Festival. This festival showcases local wines and the best chili on the Central Coast. Guests can sample from a great lineup of wineries, breweries, cider, and spirits, and explore different local retail vendors, food trucks, and more. Admission includes chili tastings, a souvenir wine glass, unlimited wine, craft beer, spirit tastings and live entertainment.
- 19-23 April, Ventura, Calif.: The <u>Skull & Roses Festival</u> invites Dead-heads of all ages for four days of live Grateful Dead interpretations. Celebrations include the Legendary Grateful Dead Holiday Runs, and Channel the '78 Egypt Shows, with daily themed parades. Attendees are encouraged to dress and participate based on daily musical themes.

Sports

- 5 Feb., Los Angeles, Calif.: The famed Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum opened in Exposition Park in 1923, since becoming one of the world's greatest sports venues. It is the only facility in the world to host two Olympiads (X and XXIII), two Super Bowls (I and VII), one World Series (1959), a Papal Mass and visits by three U.S. Presidents: John F. Kennedy, Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan. The venue will be celebrating its centennial with epic events including signature football games, can't-miss concerts and more including NASCAR's Busch Light Clash on February 5, 2023 in celebration of NASCAR's 75th Anniversary season.
- o 12 Feb., Glendale, Ariz.: Super Bowl LVII, the National Football League (NFL)'s championship game, will take place at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. It will be the fourth Super Bowl hosted by the Phoenix metropolitan area. Rihanna will be the headliner of the halftime show, with teams to be announced.
- 1-2 April, Los Angeles, Calif.: The latest in a decade of major L.A. sporting events culminating in the 2028 Summer Olympic & Paralympic Games, <u>WrestleMania 39</u> will take place at SoFi Stadium April 1-2, 2023. The longest running professional wrestling event in history,this year's WrestleMania event in L.A. invites fans to cheer on superstars like Roman Reigns, Ronda Rousey and Bobby Lashley from the stands at the spectacular SoFi Stadium.

Film and T.V.

- o **5 Feb.:** The 65th Grammy Awards at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, Calif.
- o **17 Feb.**: Ant-Man and the Wasp: Quantumania
 - Plot: Scott Lang and Hope Van Dyne, along with Hank Pym and Janet Van Dyne, explore the Quantum Realm, where they interact with strange creatures and embark on an adventure that goes beyond the limits of what they thought was possible. Filmed in various international locations, including <u>Atlanta, GA, San Francisco, CA, and Los Angeles,</u> <u>CA</u>
- o 12 March: The 95th Academy Awards at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, Calif.
- o **17 March** *Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom*
 - <u>Plot</u>: Plot TBD. Filmed in various international locations, including <u>Hawaii and California</u>
 (Malibu and Los Angeles)



U.S. Territories

• Festivals:

- 18 Feb., St. Croix: Mardi Croix is an annual held each February on the Saturday before Fat Tuesday and Ash Wednesday as St. Croix's own Mardi Gras celebration. Organized by the Krewe de Croix, a group of Louisiana transplants and Mardi Gras enthusiasts, Mardi Croix is a parade that takes place on the North Shore of St. Croix starting in La Valle (located on St. Croix's North Shore) and ending just past Cane Bay Beach. The parade and festivities include all the colors, music, food and let-it-loose partying that Mardi Gras is known for... with a Crucian twist!
- 24-26 Feb., Adjuntas, Puerto Rico: On an Island known for its warm weather year-round, the Festival del Frío, or the "Festival of the Cold" in English, celebrates the coldest peak in Puerto Rico: the mountainous municipality of Adjuntas. Visitors can enjoy carnival rides, local artisans, games, food, live music, and more in a family-friendly environment.
- 6 March, Guam: Guam History and Chamorro Heritage Month, or simply Mes Chamoru, is the time of year when the Guam community celebrates and reflects on the island's native culture. Mes Chamoru kicks off with Guam History & Chamorro Heritage Day, which falls on the first Monday of the month of March. One of the key events during Mes Chamoru is the Guam Discovery Day celebration hosted in one of the island's most scenic villages, the southern village of Umatac. The festivity showcases the historical value, rich culture, and traditions of the Chamorro people through guided heritage walking tours and a theatrical re-enactment of the landing of Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan.
- 8-10 April, St. Croix: Held annually during the Easter weekend, the <u>Virgin Gorda Easter Festival</u> is filled with activities; calypso monarch competition, local and regional live entertainment, street parade, queen show and nightly village entertainment.
- April 2023, St. Thomas: The annual <u>Virgin Islands Carnival</u>, with origins in Africa, is the most spectacular and fun carnival in the Virgin Islands. "Mocko Jumbies," people dressed as spirits, parade through the streets on stilts nearly 20 feet high. Steel and fungi bands, "jump-ups," and parades are part of the festivities. Over the years, interestingly, the festivities have become more and more Christianized. Events take place islandwide, but most of the action is on the streets of Charlotte Amalie.

